FEB 2 3 2006 BULL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Docket No. 30621-DIV2-CIP1

SANDERS, JOHN L., et al

Serial No.: 10/708,714

Filed: March 19, 2004

ANIONIC POLYMERS COMPOSED OF

DICARBOXYLIC ACIDS AND USES

THEREOF

Group Art Unit No. 1713

Examiner: Helen Lee Pezzuto

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the office action dated November 23, 2005, amendment and reconsideration of the above application is requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 15 of this paper.